



PTO/SB/08a/b (07-05)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)		Complete if Known			
		Application Number	10/814,778-Conf. #4940		
		Filing Date	March 30, 2004		
		First Named Inventor	Pushpito K. Ghosh		
		Art Unit	1754		
		Examiner Name	A. E. Hertzog		
Sheet	1	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	03108/0201121-USO

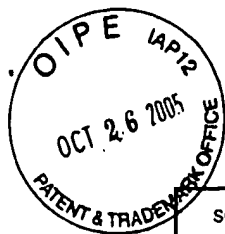
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
		FERNANDEZ-LOZANO, J. A., et al., "Production of Potassium Sulphate by an Ammoniation Process", The Chemical Engineer, October 1979, pp. 688-690.	
		SCHERZBERG, H., et al., "Messo pilots new potassium sulphate process", Phosphorus & Potassium, March-April 1992, No. 178, pp. 20-26.	
		BHAT, G. D., et al., "Mixed Salt from Sea Bittern", Salt Research & Industry, October 1965, Vol. 2, No. 4, pp. 126-128.	
		PATEL, K. P., et al., "Potassium Sulphate from Syngenite", Salt Research & Industry, pp. 42.	
		SESHADRI, K., et al., "Manufacture of Potassium Chloride and Byproducts from Sea Bittern", Salt Research & Industry, April-July 1970, Vol. 7, Nos. 2 & 3, pp. 39-44.	
		FREEMAN, Michael, "Great Salt Lake - A fertile harvest for IMC", Phosphorus & Potassium, January-February 2000, No. 225, pp. 32-35.	
		WILEY - VCH - Ullmann's Encyclopedia of Industrial Chemistry, "4.2.2. Production from Seawater [62], [63]", Sixth Edition, 2002.	
		Abstract for Canadian Patent No. 2,423,244, "Process for the Manufacture of Potassium Sulphate by Treatment of Solutions March 9, 1983, CA 1203666.	
		BALAREW, Chr., et al., "Improved Treatment of Waste Brines", pp. 551-554.	
		HILDEBRAND, John H., et al., "The Extraction of Potash and Other Constituents from Sea Water Bittern", The Journal of Industrial and Engineering Chemistry, February 1918, Vol. 10, No. 2, pp. 96-105.	
		MEHTA, D. J., et al., "Production of Potassium Sulphate from Mixed Salt Obtained from Salt Works of the Little Rann of Kutch", Salt Research & Industry, October 1965, Vol. 2, No. 4, pp. 139-140.	*
		GURBUZ, H., et al., "Recovery of Potassium Salts from Bittern by Potassium Pentaborate Crystallization", Separation Science and Technology, 1996, Vol. 31, No. 6, pp. 857-870.	
		MEHTA, A. S., "Henry's Constant for Bromine-Sea Brine Systems and Liquid Film Mass Transfer Coefficient for Desorption of Bromine from Sea Brine", Indian Chem. Engr., April-June 2003, Section A, Vol. 45, No. 2, pp. 75-83.	
		Abstract for Chinese Patent Application, Publication No. 1084492, "Process for preparation of	
Examiner Signature	A. E. Hertzog		Date Considered
			11.8.05

(* previously cited)



PTO/SB/08a/b (07-05)
Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/814,778-Conf. #4940
				Filing Date	March 30, 2004
				First Named Inventor	Pushpito K. Ghosh
				Art Unit	1754
				Examiner Name	A. E. Hertzog
Sheet	2	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	03108/0201121-US0

		potassium sulfate from bittern and potassium chloride", March 30, 1994.	
		Abstract for Chinese Patent Application, Publication No. 1281822, "Method for preparing potassium sulfate by using sulfate type potassium-containing bittern", January 31, 2001.	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	11.8.05
-----------------------	--	--------------------	---------